

Navy Directives

Capitalization, Acronyms, and Wording

Presented By:

DNS-15



INTRODUCTION



Capitalization, Acronym, and Wording Resources

- Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms, JP 1-02
 (http://www.dtic.mil/doctrine/new_pubs/jp1_02.pdf: acronyms, definition of acronyms and capitalization
- Navy Doctrine Library System (NDLS) (https://ndls.nwdc.navy.mil/Terminology.aspx) CAC enabled "Terminology" tab. Contains the Navy Supplement to the JP 1-02 (NTRP 1-02) and the Marine Corps Supplement to the JP 1-02 (MCRP 5-12C): acronyms, definition of acronyms and capitalization
- <u>U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) Style Manual</u>,
 (http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/granule/GPO-STYLEMANUAL-2008/GPO-STYLEMANUAL-2008-5): capitalization, spelling, punctuation, use of numerals, signs and symbols, format of phone numbers
- Writing Style Guide and Preferred Usage for DoD Issuances
 (http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/writing/Writing_Style_Guide.pdf):
 acronyms/abbreviations, definitions, terminology, wording
- <u>U.S. Navy Style Guide (http://www.navy.mil/submit/view_styleguide.asp?sort=A)</u>: capitalization, acronyms, spelling, terminology, wording

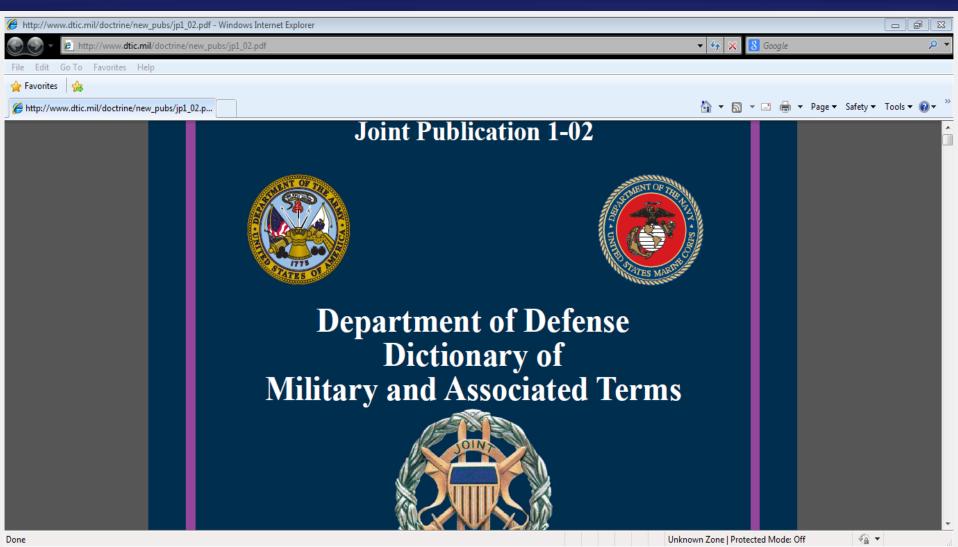


Capitalization, Acronym, and Wording Resources – Cont.

- OPNAVINST 5215.17, OPNAV Directives Program
 (http://doni.documentservices.dla.mil/Directives/05000%20General%20Management%20Security%20and%20Safety%20Services/05 200%20Management%20Program%20and%20Techniques%20Services/5215.17.pdf): rules of capitalization in Navy directives
- SECNAV Manual 5216.5, Department of the Navy Correspondence Manual
 (http://doni.documentservices.dla.mil/SECNAV%20Manuals1/5216.5.pdf): acronym usage, font, format/outline, citation of references, enclosures
- <u>Standard Navy Distribution List (SNDL), OPNAVINST 5400.45</u>
 (http://doni.documentservices.dla.mil/sndl.aspx): abbreviation of command, activities, squadrons, etc.
- <u>Federal Plain Language Guideline:</u>
 (http://www.plainlanguage.gov/howto/guidelines/FederalPLGuidelines/FederalPLGuidelines.p
 <u>df</u>): wording

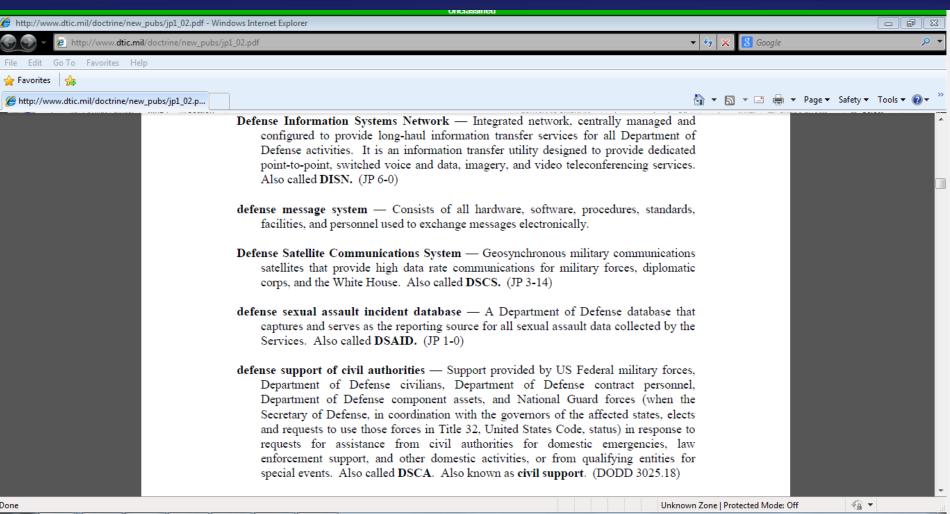


JP 1-02



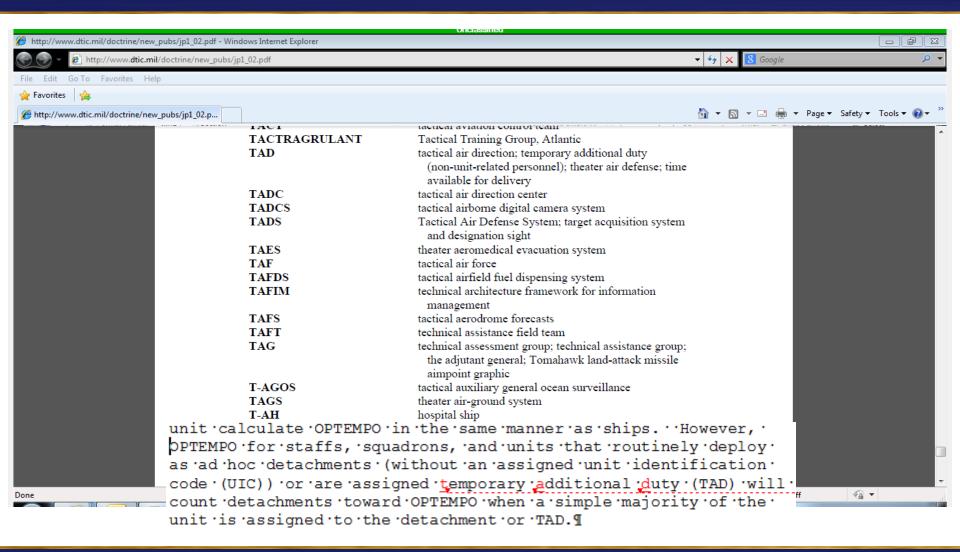


JP 1-02



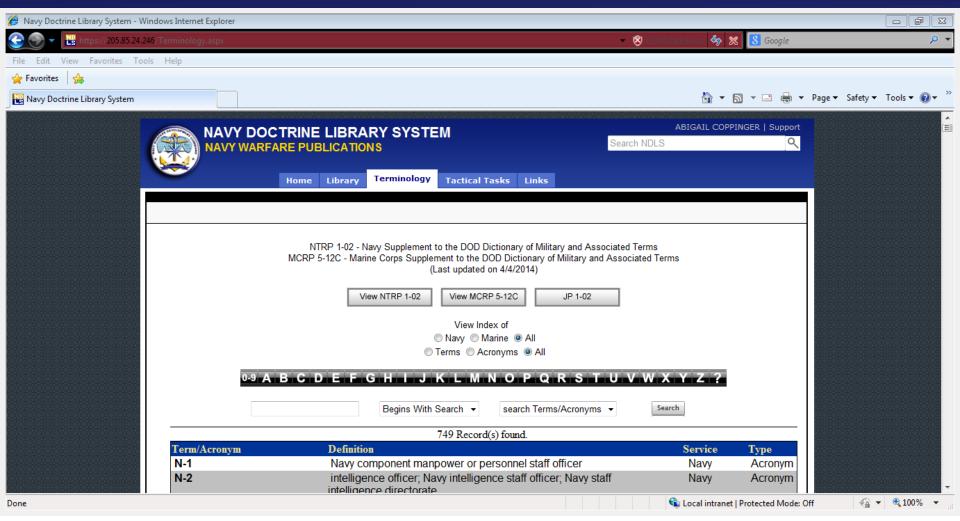


JP 1-02 Example



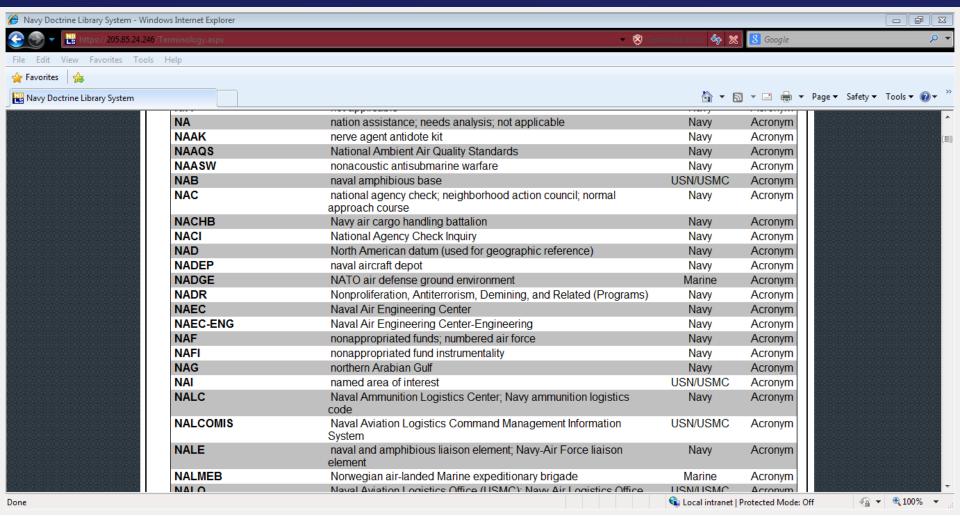


NDLS



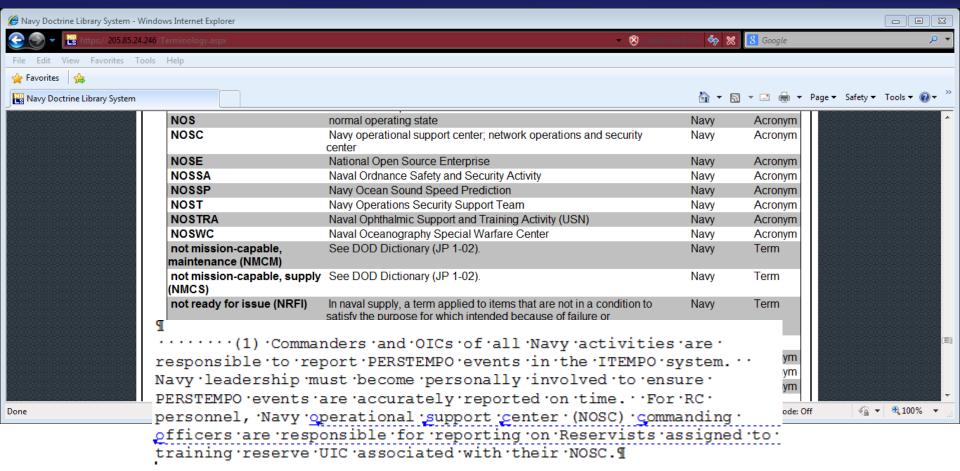


NDLS





Capitalization and Acronym Example





U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) Style Manual

3. Capitalization Rules

(See also Chapter 4 "Capitalization Examples" and Chapter 9 "Abbreviations and Letter Symbols")

3.1. It is impossible to give rules that will cover every conceivable problem in capitalization, but, by considering the purpose to be served and the underlying principles, it is possible to attain a considerable degree of uniformity. The list of approved forms given in Chapter 4 will serve as a guide. Obviously such a list cannot be complete. The correct usage with respect to any term not included can be determined by analogy or by application of the rules.



3.9. A common noun used with a date, number, or letter, merely to denote time or sequence, or for the purpose of reference, record, or temporary convenience, does not form a proper name and is ther fore not capitalized. (See also rule 3.38.)

abstract B	figure 7	room A722
act of 1928	first district (not	rule 8
amendment 5	congressional)	schedule K
apartment 2	flight 007	section 3
appendix C	graph 8	signature 4
article 1	group 7	spring 1926
book II	history 301	station 27
chapter III	mile 7.5	table 4
chart B	page 2	title IV
class I	paragraph 4	treaty of 1919
collection 6	part I	volume X
column 2	phase 3	war of 1914
drawing 6	plate IV	ward 2
exhibit D	region 3	



Names of organized bodies

3.17. The full names of existing or proposed organized bodies and their shortened names are capitalized; other substitutes, which are most often regarded as common nouns, are capitalized only in certain specified instances to indicate preeminence or distinction.

National governmental units:

U.S. Navy: the Navy; the Marine Corps; Navy (Naval) Establishment; Navy officer; *but* naval shipyard; naval officer; naval station



Names of countries, domains, and administrative divisions

- **3.19.** The official designations of countries, national domains, and their principal administrative divisions are capitalized only if used as part of proper names, as proper names, or as proper adjectives.
 - United States: the Republic; the Nation; the Union; the Government; also Federal, Federal Government; but republic (when not referring specifically to one such entity); republican (in general sense); a nation devoted to peace
 - New York State: the State, a State (a definite political subdivision of first rank)
- **3.20.** The similar designations *commonwealth, confederation (federal), government, nation (national), powers, republic,* etc., are capitalized only if used as part of proper names, as proper names, or as proper adjectives.
 - Cherokee Nation: the nation; but Greek nation; American nations
 - National Government (of any specific nation); but national customs
 - Allied Powers, Allies (in World Wars I and II); but our allies, weaker allies;
 - Central Powers (in World War I); but the powers; European powers
 - Republic of South Africa: the Republic; but republic (in general sense)



Names of regions, localities, and geographic features

3.21. A descriptive term used to denote a definite region, locality, or geographic feature is a proper name and is therefore capitalized; also for temporary distinction a coined name of a region is capitalized.

the North Atlantic States Middle East

Eastern North Central States the Continent (continental Europe)

Far Western States the Western Hemisphere

Eastern United States the North Pole

the Eastern Shore (Chesapeake Bay)

Lower East Side (sections of

the Badlands (SD and NE) a city)

3.22. A descriptive term used to denote mere direction or position is not a proper name and is therefore not capitalized.

north; south; east; west east coast; eastern seaboard

northerly; northern; northward northern Italy

southern California but East Germany; West Germany

eastern region; western region (former political entities)



Names of calendar divisions

3.23. The names of calendar divisions are capitalized.

January; February; March; etc.

Monday; Tuesday; Wednesday; etc.

but spring; summer; autumn (fall); winter

3.30. Capitalize the names of the celestial bodies as well as the planets.

Sun Earth Venus

Moon Mercury Mars

Jupiter Uranus but the moons of Jupiter

Saturn Neptune

Historical or political events

3.31. Names of historical or political events used as a proper name are capitalized.

Battle of Bunker Hill Middle Ages Revolution, the

Dust Bowl Fall of Rome American, 1775

Great Depression English, 1688

but Korean war; cold war; Vietnam war; gulf war



Titles of persons

3.34. Civil, religious, military, and professional titles, as well as those of nobility, immediately preceding a name are capitalized.

President Bush Dr. Bellinger

Queen Elizabeth II Nurse Joyce Norton

Lieutenant Fowler but baseball player Ripken; maintenance man

Flow; foreman Collins

3.35. To indicate preeminence or distinction in certain specified instances, a common-noun title immediately following the name of a person or used alone as a substitute for it is capitalized.

- Title of a head or assistant head of state: George W. Bush, President of the United States: the President
- Title of a head or assistant head of an existing or a proposed National governmental unit:
 Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State: the Secretary



- Titles of the military: Admiral Michael Mullen, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; Joint Chiefs of Staff; but the commanding general; general (military title standing alone not capitalized)
- Titles not capitalized: Charles F. Hughes, rear admiral, U.S. Navy: the rear admiral; Steven Knapp, president of The George Washington University



Writing Style Guide and Preferred Usage For DoD Issuances

- Write terms out the first time they appear in the text and place the abbreviation or acronym in parenthesis following it. Use the acronym consistently thereafter: don't repeat the term.
- Per the Plain Writing Act of 2010, consider not using acronyms if the term is used infrequently in the issuance.
- The acronym "U.S." may be used in the adjective form only. Spell out "United States" when using the noun form (also rule 9-10 of the GPO).
- Combatant command acronyms:
 - The Combatant Commands are legally named "United States Central Command," "United States Joint Forces Command," etc. The acronyms therefore are: USCENTCOM, USEUCOM, USJFCOM, USNORTHCOM, USPACOM, USSOUTHCOM, USSOCOM, USSTRATCOM, and USTRANSCOM.



Writing Style Guide and Preferred Usage For DoD Issuances

- The abbreviation for "combatant command" is "CCMD" not "COCOM."
 "COCOM" refers to "(combatant command) command authority" and not to the combatant command.
- The abbreviation for "combatant commander" is "CCDR."

Article Usage With Abbreviations and Acronyms

- Use of the articles "the," "a," and "an" before abbreviations and acronyms will be determined by basic rules of grammar. If an article would appear before the term if it were spelled out, then it most likely will be used before the acronym.
- The use of "a" and "an" depends on the sound of the acronym that follows, not on the first letter. For example, the vowel sound at the beginning of the acronym "MP" (pronounced "em-pea") requires that "an" be used. However, "a" is used before "MOOTW," since the acronym's pronounced "moo-twah."



OPNAVINST 5215.17

Examples and rules of capitalization per OPNAVINST 5215.17 and GPO

Page T1-11: Underlined titles, with the initial letters of the first and main words capitalized, must be
used for all major paragraphs; they may be used for subparagraphs

Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, must be managed per the Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

Page 8-2: Each appendix must have a capitalized descriptive title following the appendix designation

APPENDIX A DEFINITIONS

Page T1-8: For subjects, use normal word order and capitalize every letter

Subj: NAVY DIRECTIVES ISSUANCE SYSTEM

Page 3-1: Do not capitalize the words "instruction," "notice," "change transmittal," or "directive" when used in the body of a communication. "commanding officer," "officer in charge," "command master chief," and ranks/rates, e.g., "captain," "commander," "chief petty officer," etc., will be lower-cased unless being used with an official title or name. (e.g., Commanding Officer, Naval Station, Somewhere; or Captain Jones or Petty Officer Smith)."



SECNAV M-5216.5

Per SECNAV M-5216.5, chapter 2:

- "Abbreviations and acronyms are one of the most misused aspects of correspondence. When using abbreviations and acronyms the writer must consider the audience. What is familiar to you may not be familiar to the reader. The use of abbreviations and acronyms tends to detract from the content of the correspondence by causing the reader to have to pause, remember what the abbreviation or acronym means, then continue reading."
- "Established abbreviations are acceptable in all but the most formal writing (e.g., directives)."
- "If you use an acronym, spell it out first and then define the acronym in parentheses. After the initial definition, the acronym may be used without explanation." In directives, only define an acronym once, unless in a large directive, such as a manual-type instruction where the acronyms may be defined in each chapter.

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as 'ad 'hoc 'detachments' (without 'an 'assigned 'unit 'identification' code' (UIC)) 'pr'are 'assigned' temporary 'additional 'duty' (TAD) 'will count' detachments 'toward' OPTEMPO 'when 'a 'simple 'majority' of 'the' unit' is 'assigned' to 'the 'detachment' or 'TAD.¶
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Acronyms

- Per the Writing Style Guide for DoD Issuances, consider not using acronyms if only cited a few times
- Never used in the subject of directives
- Acronyms are only defined once (exception: can be defined again in sections/chapters of a large directives, like manual-type instructions; and enclosures which can also be considered stand-alone documents)
- If not used more than once, do not use the acronym. Exceptions:
 - All organization codes, and ship, aircraft and submarine designations must be identified, even if only used once. For example: OPNAV Director, Programming (OPNAV N80); amphibious assault ship, multipurpose (LHD); fighter/attack (F/A); and ballistic-missile submarine, nuclear propulsion (SSBN).
 - Technical systems, information technology systems, and computer applications are permitted even if not used again.
 - The acronym "U.S." as an adjective as per slide #19.



Acronyms (cont.)

- First use is fully defined followed by the appropriate acronym in parentheses:
 - For example: "subject matter expert (SME)"
 - First use is considered within the body of the text, NOT in the subject line, reference block, enclosure block, or table of contents (in a manual-type instruction)
- Do not capitalize the term/definition of an acronym if not normally capitalized
 - ISIC immediate superior in charge
 - COLA cost of living adjustment
- Do not make acronyms plural; for example, "commanding officers (CO)"
- For abbreviations for commands, activities, squadrons, etc., use the SNDL PLA long title abbreviations
 - For example, for Commander, Naval Air Forces, use "COMNAVAIRFOR," not
 "CNAF"



Acronyms (cont.)

The Navy acronym official sources are:

- Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms JP 1-02 (http://www.dtic.mil/doctrine/new_pubs/jp1_02.pdf)
- Navy Doctrine Library System (NDLS)
 (https://ndls.nwdc.navy.mil/Terminology.aspx) CAC enabled "Terminology" tab. Contains the Navy Supplement to the JP 1-02 (NTRP 1-02) and the Marine Corps Supplement to the JP 1-02 (MCRP 5-12C)



Common Acronyms Mistakes

- Acronyms are not official acronyms
 - Not found in the JP 1-02 or NDLS
 - Can be an official acronym from another DoD or Government agency
- The same acronym used for more than one definition
 - AO cannot be used to represent "aviation ordnanceman" and "area of operations" in the same directive
- An acronym is only defined and used once

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or electronic Joint Manpower and Personnel System (eJMAPS).
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Acronyms are identified as a plural

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instrumental 'tool 'for 'monitoring 'PERSTEMPO 'of 'Sailors 'is 'accurate 'data. 'The 'accuracy 'and 'timeliness 'of 'this 'data 'is 'the 'responsibility 'of 'commanding officers '(CO) 'and officers 'in 'charge '(OIC) . '¶
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Common Acronyms Mistakes - cont

- For abbreviations for commands, use the SNDL plain language address long title abbreviations
 - Although USFF and NSWC are used in casual correspondence, Navy directives are the most formal form of communication and official SNDL titles must be used

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delineated in 'enclosures' (2) 'and' (3).''U.S.'Fleet'Forces' Command' (USFLTFORCOM), 'Pacific'Fleet' (PACFLT), 'and' Naval' Special' Warfare' Command' (NAV SPECWARCCOM) 'shall' consider' potential' PERSTEMPO' consequences in 'addition' to 'OPTEMPO' metrics' when 'developing' and'
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Wording

- Do not use virgules ("/") when they can be replaced with "and" or "or" (e.g., instead of "commands/activities," use "commands and activities" or "commands or activities")
- Like acronyms, identify official titles/names of all organization codes at first citation (even if used <u>only once</u>) (e.g., "OPNAV Director, Warfare Integration (OPNAV N2/N6F)")
- Ensure capitalization is correct refer to the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) Style Manual, (http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/granule/GPO-STYLEMANUAL-2008/GPO-STYLEMANUAL-2008-5) the Navy Style Guide (http://www.navy.mil/submit/view_styleguide.asp?sort=A), and JP 1-02/NTRP 1-02/MCRP 5-12C
- Do not use "in accordance with"; instead use "per," "by," "following" or "under"
- Replace "promulgate" with "issue" or "publish"
- Measurements and time are not spelled out use figures even if less than 10 (e.g., 2 feet by 1 foot 8 inches, 3 days, 5 years) per the GPO. However, do not begin sentences with a numeric number. In this instance, the figure must be spelled out (e.g., instead of "4 years ago, the . . .", the sentence must start as "Four years ago, the . . ."



Wording (Cont.)

- Navy directives must be written in the third person, therefore, personal pronouns such as
 "our," "we," "us," and "you" are not allowed. Instead use "he or she," "him or her," "it," "they,"
 "their," "member," "Sailor," or "Marine," etc.
- Be aware when using verb modifiers:

Must - Action is obligated. Per the Federal Plain Language Guideline and the Writing Style Guide and Preferred Usage for DoD Issuances, do not use "shall"

Must not - Action is prohibited

Should - Action is recommended

Will - To denote a required action in the future

May - Action is discretionary

- The term "Web site" can be spelled many different ways, however for Navy directives, it must be spelled "Web site."
- Contractions must not be used in Navy directives. In lieu of "don't," use "do not"; instead of "can't," use "cannot," etc.



Wording (Cont.)

- When using a phone number in a directive, it must follow the format (xxx) xxx-xxxx (such as "(123) 456-7890").
- Dates of directives must include 4-digit years (i.e., YYYY)
- Per the DoD Writing Style Guide, "active duty" includes active duty for training. To exclude
 the training, use "active duty (other than for training)." The term "active service" is used when
 referring to military experience that may be credited toward promotion or retirement. Do not
 use "active duty."
- The term "echelon" is not capitalized and echelon levels are identified with Arabic numerals, not Roman numerals, e.g., echelon 4, not Echelon IV.
- "above," "below," and "following" cannot be used when referring to a specific paragraph or subparagraph. Instead, the particular paragraph(s) or subparagraph(s) must be cited. Such, as "... the items listed in subparagraphs 2a(1) through 2a(3)..."



Scenario 1

- 4. <u>Navy Electronic Chart Display Information System (ECDIS) Integrated</u>
 Product Team (IPT)
- a. In accordance with reference (b), the OPNAV N2/N6E shall establish and chair the Navy Electronic Chart Display Information System (ECDIS) Integrated Product Team (IPT), which shall be comprised of representatives from the OPNAV Platform Resource Sponsor; Commander, Operational Test and Evaluation Force (COMOPTEVFOR); Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA); PEO IWS; NAVSEA Navigation Systems Technical Warrant Holder; Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command (CUSFFC); and Platform Type Commander (TYCOM). As indicated in Appendix A, the purpose of a IPT is to promulgate the following documents within a two-year time span:
 - (1) . . .
 - (2) . .; and
 - (3) . . .
- b. The Navy ECDIS IPT won't be allowed to require our enlisted personnel to . . .



Scenario1 - Corrected

- 4. Navy Electronic Chart Display Information System (ECDIS) Integrated Product Team (IPT)
- a. Per reference (b), the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV), Director of Oceanography, Space, and Maritime Domain Awareness (OPNAV N2/N6E) must establish and chair the Navy ECDIS IPT, which will be comprised of representatives from the OPNAV platform resource sponsor; Commander, Operational Test and Evaluation Force (COMOPTEVFOR); Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command (COMNAVSEASYSCOM); Program Executive Office, Integrated Warfare Systems (PEO IWS); COMNAVSEASYSCOM navigation systems technical warrant holder; Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command (COMUSFLTFORCOM); and platform type commander (TYCOM). As indicated in appendix A, the purpose of an IPT is to issue the documents listed in subparagraphs 4a(1) through 4a(3) within a 2-year time span:
 - (1) . . .
 - (2) . .; and
 - (3) . . .
- b. The Navy ECDIS IPT will not be allowed to require Navy enlisted personnel to . . .



Scenario 2

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5. ·· Termination · of · Incentive · Entitlement · and · Repayment. ·· Certain ·
circumstances · specific · to · the · Selected · Reserve · (SELRES) ·
constitute · failure · to · complete · the · terms · of · the · contract · and ·
include, .but .are .not .limited .to, .paragraphs .a .through .c, .below. . .
For paragraphs a and b, below, repayment is at the discretion of
the ·Secretarial ·Process ·when ·a ·member ·fails ·to ·complete ·a ·
contract.¶
····a. ··It·is·Navy·policy·that, ·for·members·who·accept·assignment·to·
Active · Duty · for · Special · Work · (ADSW) · or · Active · Duty · Training · (ADT), ·
entitlement · to · an · incentive · shall · be · terminated · by · the · member 's · Navy ·
Operational · Support · Center · Commanding · Officer · if · the · member · does · not ·
return · to ·a ·drilling ·status ·within ·30 ·days ·after ·release ·from ·
ADSW/ADT.¶
····b.··If ·accepting ·an ·appointment ·as ·an ·Officer ·or ·Warrant ·
Officer · in · the · Selected · Reserve, · recoupment · is · required · if · less ·
than one year of the current contract has been served. ¶
····c. ·· Members · who ·move · from ·one ·location · to ·another · may ·
continue · bonus · eligibility · if · they · remain · in · the · SELRES · and ·
continue · to · participate · satisfactorily. · · Commander, · Navy · Reserve ·
Forces · Command · (CNRFC) · will · make · every · effort · to · transfer · an ·
incentive · recipient · who · moves · to · a · new · location · into · a · similar ·
unit or one that can make use of the individual's rating. ¶
                 Section Break (Next Page)
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Scenario 2 - Corrected

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5. ·· Termination · of · Incentive · Entitlement · and · Repayment. ·· Certain ·
circumstances ·specific ·to ·the ·Selected · Reserve · (SELRES) ·constitute ·
failure to complete the terms of the contract and include, but are
not ·limited ·to, ·subparagraphs ·5a ·through ·5c. ·· For ·subparagraphs ·5a ·
and ·5b, ·repayment ·is ·at ·the ·discretion ·of ·the ·secretarial ·process ·
when ·a ·member ·fails ·to ·complete ·a ·contract.¶
····a. ··It ·is ·Navy ·policy ·that, ·for ·members ·who ·accept ·assignment ·to ·
active ·duty ·for ·special ·work · (ADSW) ·or ·active ·duty ·training · (ADT), ·
entitlement · to · an · incentive · must · be · terminated · by · the · member's · Navy ·
operational · support · center · commanding · officer · if · the · member · does · not ·
return · to ·a ·drilling ·status ·within ·30 ·days ·after ·release ·from ·ADSW ·or ·
P.TCA
····b. ··If ·accepting · an ·appointment · as ·an ·officer ·or ·warrant ·
officer · in · the · SELRES, · recoupment · is · required · if · less · than · 1 ·
year · of · the · current · contract · has · been · served. ¶
····c. ·· Members · who · move · from · one · location · to · another · may ·
continue · bonus · eliqibility · if · they · remain · in · the · SELRES · and ·
continue · to · participate · satisfactorily. · · Commander, · Navy · Reserve ·
Forces · Command · (COMNAVRESFOR) · will · make · every · effort · to · transfer ·
an ·incentive · recipient · who ·moves · to ·a · new · location · into ·a ·
similar ·unit ·or ·one ·that ·can ·make ·use ·of ·the ·individual's ·
rating.¶_____Section Break (Next Page)_____
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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



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